



Miami Parking Authority is Set to Unveil a Collaborative Mural by the New World School of the Arts in the Courthouse Center garage.

The mural is an imaginative and meaningful depiction of the critical need to safeguard South Florida's fragile marine ecosystem.

(MIAMI, FL – DECEMBER 11, 2023) - Miami Parking Authority (MPA) has once again partnered with the New World School of the Arts (NWSA) to sponsor the latest in a series of murals that will become a permanent art installation on one of the interior walls of the Courthouse Center garage located at 40 N.W. Third Street in downtown Miami.

Scheduled to be unveiled on **Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, the mural is the product of a team of ten talented student artists from the Visual Arts Department under the guidance of Professor Aramis O'Reilly.

The three-mural progressive campaign is an environmentally-inspired initiative that began with the first mural about preserving the historic Everglades to the one calling attention to safeguarding South Florida's native fauna and flora against the backdrop of downtown's urban development to the latest version that focuses on conserving marine life and local habitats.

The mural became a fall semester course designed to create an opportunity for students to have real-life and direct experiences while working on projects in public spaces. The students signed up for the three-month class and spent approximately 20 days painting the mural.

Collaborative art allows students to work as a team from beginning to end, helping them experience the complexity of managing a public art project.

The mural's title, *Marine Mirage*, is evocative of the transparency and illusion of the ocean's depth. The iconography used in the artwork showcases the aquatic animals native to South Florida, helping the local ecosystems flourish. The mural is expected to engage neighbors, pedestrians, the business community, and visitors by providing a sense of momentary tranquility and peace amidst the hustle and bustle of downtown Miami.

"This collaboration is aimed at uplifting and inspiring students to dream higher, but also to underscore the need to protect marine life to safeguard South Florida's fragile ecosystems to sustain life for today's and future generations," said Alejandra "Alex" Argudin, Chief Executive Officer. "

Students designed and created the mural from start to finish. They wrote the proposal, conceptualized the design, managed the budget, chose supplies, and envisioned a large-scale project. They also experienced working with an actual client and learned to build relationships to fulfill the artist's and client's vision. In essence, the experiences the students gained in this class will have an enduring value for their careers as practicing artists.

“The New World School of the Arts is truly grateful for the opportunity to have partnered once again with the Miami Parking Authority,” said Aramis O’Reilly, Senior Professor, Visual Arts Department. “Working with the wonderful MPA staff has been a delight for our students. The support, guidance, and trust that the Miami Parking Authority has given them has had an immeasurably positive impact. The real-world experiences that have come from working on this series of murals have also given the students valuable practical training, artistic confidence, and most all, the avenue by which to share their special abilities with the Miami community.”

For more information about the mural unveiling event, please contact Margarita R. Delgado, [margarita@mrd-consulting.com/\(305\) 336-6267](mailto:margarita@mrd-consulting.com/(305)336-6267).

Note to the editor/producer:

Please click the link for mural video and photos from beginning to end: [☐ NWSA Photos and Videos](#)

About Miami Parking Authority

Miami Parking Authority was established in 1955 by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature and incorporated into the city of Miami's Charter in 1968. The Authority manages approximately 47,000 spaces, including 14 garages, 68 surface lots, and about 12,000 on-street spaces. For more information, please visit www.miamiparking.com.

Recognized as a premier parking organization and a leader in technology integration and innovation, Miami Parking Authority has leaped forward in the past decade to support micro-mobility options, pilot in- and above-ground sensors, and foster public-private initiatives that help drive economic development in Miami.

IG: @mpacommunity, FB @miamiparking, X: @miamiparking
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/miami-parking-authority>

About New World School of the Arts

Aspiring artists in the NWSA visual arts division can join other exceptionally talented students as they engage in the pursuit of their artistic career in the visual, graphic, or electronic arts. Trained by nationally renowned practicing artists, students at New World School of the Arts are encouraged to develop a personal, artistic, and aesthetic vision while mastering their technical skills in traditional and new media. Students are allowed to explore new paths while at the same time being exposed to the work of both classical and contemporary masters. Through

disciplined training in traditional and new media, students develop new skills and refine others while gaining invaluable understanding of the roles of art and design in society. Areas of concentration include Art & Technology, Drawing, Graphic Design, Painting, Photography, and Sculpture. Information about the NWSA Visual Arts division at (305) 237-3620.

A Florida center of excellence in the visual and performing arts, NWSA provides a comprehensive program of artistic, creative, and academic development through a curriculum that reflects the rich multicultural state of Florida. With programs accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, Music, Theatre, and Art & Design, NWSA offers four-year BFA and BM college degrees, as well as the high school diploma. Through its rigorous curriculum and conservatory-style teaching NWSA empowers its students to become leaders in the arts. New World School of the Arts was created by the Florida Legislature as a center of excellence in the performing and visual arts. It is an educational partnership of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade College, and the University of Florida. Information about New World School of the Arts at 305-237-3135 or at <http://nwsa.mdc.edu/>